

It is respectfully submitted that these remarks explain how the claimed subject matter is not narrowed by this Preliminary Amendment.

The amendments to the specification add headings (FIELD OF THE INVENTION, SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, etc.) and priority claims to comply with US practice. These headings and priority claims do not have any effect on the subject matter claimed herein and, thus, do not narrow the same.


Many of the claims presented in the application recite "wherein", in accordance with US practice, instead of "characterized in that", as in the priority applications. These transitional phrases have the same meaning and, thus, the scope of the claimed subject matter is the same and not more narrow in the claims as amended.

Further, many of the claims presented in the application recite single dependencies rather than the multiple dependencies in the priority applications to avoid the fee therefor. This does not narrow the claims, since at any one time a multiple dependent claim includes the limitations of only one of the claims from which it depends, and claims with single dependencies still include the limitations of the claim from which they depend.

Still further, many of the claims presented in the application recite preferred aspects in separate claims, in accordance with US practice. For example, instead of claim 2 reciting that "the ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups is at least 1.5:1, preferably between 2:1 and 20:1", a first claim recites that "the ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups is at least 1.5:1" and a second separate claim recites that "the ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups is between 2:1 and 20:1". The use of two claims instead of one does not affect the scope of the claim and claim 2 is simply broader than the new claim.

Early and favorable consideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Lainie E. Parker
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No.: 36,123

Akzo Nobel Inc.
Intellectual Property Dept.
7 Livingstone Avenue
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522-3408
(914) 674-5466

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MARKED VERSION**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, lines 1 and 2, after "OXIDATIVELY DRYING COATING COMPOSITION COMPRISING A POLYTHIOL" insert - - This application is the national phase of PCT/EP00/03408, filed April 14, 2001, which claims the benefit of European Patent Application No. 99201352.4, filed April 29, 1999.- -

Page 1, between lines 2 and 3, please insert - -FIELD OF THE INVENTION- -.

Page 1, between lines 4 and 5, please insert - -BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION- -.

Page 1, between lines 17 and 18, please insert - -SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION- -.

Page 1, between lines 22 and 23, please insert - -DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION- -.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 2-10 as follows:

2. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein [characterized in that in] the ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups is at least 1.5:1 [1,5:1, preferably between 2:1 and 20:1].
3. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein [one of the preceding claims characterized in that] the coating composition comprises 1 - 30 wt.%, preferably 3 - 20 wt.%, of thiol compounds, related to the total weight of solid resin.
4. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein [one of the preceding claims characterized in that] one or more isocyanates are used as building blocks for the oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products.

5. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein [one of the preceding claims characterized in that] the coating composition is a high solids coating composition, comprising 0 – 40 wt.%, preferably 0 – 30 wt.%, solvents.
6. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein [one of claims 1 – 4 characterized in that] the composition is an aqueous coating composition.
7. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein [one of the preceding claims characterized in that] the photoinitiator is active by visible light.
8. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein [one of the preceding claims characterized in that] the photoinitiator is an acyl phosphine oxide compound[, preferably mono-, bis- or trisacyl phosphine oxide or a mixture thereof].
9. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein [one of the preceding claims characterized in that] at least one of the oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products is the thiol compound, or is one of the thiol compounds.
10. (Amended) Use of a coating composition according to [one of claims 1 – 9] claim 1 as a one component coating system.

Please add the following new claims:

- -11. (New) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups is between 2:1 and 20:1.
12. (New) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the coating composition comprises 3 - 20 wt.% of thiol compounds, related to the total weight of solid resin.

13. (New) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the coating composition is a high solids coating composition, comprising 0 – 30 wt.% solvents.
14. (New) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the photoinitiator is a mono-, bis- or trisacyl phosphine oxide compound or a mixture thereof.- -

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please add the following abstract on a separate page after the claims:

- -ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A coating composition comprising: one or more thiol compounds; one or more oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products of one or more fatty acids and/or esters, one or more polyols and optionally one or more polycarboxylic acids and/or anhydrides of polycarboxylic acids and optionally other building blocks; and one or more photo-initiators. The ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups is preferably between 2:1 and 20:1. Preferably, the photoinitiator is a mono-, bis- or trisacyl phosphine oxide or a mixture thereof. The coating composition according to the invention can be used as a one component coating system, preferably as a high solids coating composition, comprising 0 – 30 wt.% solvents, or as an aqueous coating composition.- -